

Message Text

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10

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 AID-05 EB-07

AGR-05 USIE-00 SP-02 NSC-05 CIEP-01 TRSE-00 SS-15

STR-04 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07

NSAE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04 SIL-01 L-03 PA-01 PRS-01

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FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3604

INFO AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 1719

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS AID/W

MBABANE FOR OSARAC

NAIROBI FOR AGATT AND REDSO

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, US, ZA

SUBJECT: AID FOR ZAMBIAN AGRICULTURE: TALK WITH PRIME MINISTER
MUDENDA

SUMMARY. ON TWO HOURS ADVANCE NOTICE, I WAS INVITED MEET AFTERNOON
JULY 2 WITH PRIMIN ELIJAH MUDENDA. PRIMIN'S MAIN PURPOSES IN
SUMMONING ME SEEMED TO BE TO: A) CONVEY SOME SENSE OF COORDINATION
AT PRIMIN LEVEL OF FOREIGN AID REQUESTS RECENTLY MADE BY GRZ;
B) EXPRESS GRZ GRATITUDE FOR US ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE WHICH WOULD
HELP BALANCE OF PAYMENTS PROBLEMS; AND C) TO UNDERLINE HIGH
PRIORITY AGRICULTURAL SECTOR FOR WHICH GRZ WILL ALSO DEPEND
ON FOREIGN ASSISTANCE. US LOOKED TO ESPECIALLY FOR FERTILIZER
IMPORTS, DEVELOPMENT OF DAIRY INDUSTRY, EXTENSION TRAINING,
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AND POSSIBLY WHEAT TECHNOLOGY. MEETING WITH ME AND WITH OTHER
POTENTIAL AID DONOR AMBASSADORS WHO ALSO SUMMONED SEE MUDENDA
MAY BE RELATED TO CURRENT VISIT TO ZAMBIA OF UN'S SIR ROBERT
JACKSON WHO HAS BEEN URGING ZAMBIANS TAKE BETTER STOCK OF OFFERS

FROM BILATERAL AID DONORS BEFORE TURNING AGAIN TO UN FOR AID.
END SUMMARY.

1. PRIMIN OPENED CONVERSATION BY EXPLAINING HOW PARTY WORKERS HAD EFFECTIVELY MOBILIZED ZAMBIAN PEOPLE TO INCREASE FOOD PRODUCTION AND WERE NOW BEGINNING TO COLLABORATE WELL WITH AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION EXPERTS DOWN AT VILLAGE LEVEL. EXPLAINED THAT RESTRUCTURED ZAMBIAN ECONOMY IS NOW MOVING AHEAD THROUGH RURAL RECONSTRUCTION CENTERS, SCHOOL PRODUCTION UNITS, AND ZAMBIA NATIONAL SERVICE TO MAKE ZAMBIA PROBABLY SELF-SUFFICIENT IN FOOD PRODUCTION WITHIN FIVE YEARS. (PRIMIN MENTIONED MAIZE, WHEAT, AND OIL SEEDS). MUDENDA, WHO IS HIMSELF A TRAINED AGRICULTURALIST, WAS NOTICEABLY EXCITED AND ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT SUCH RURAL AREAS AS PETAUKE IN EASTERN PROVINCE WHERE HE SAID FIRST YEAR SUCCESSES HAVE ALREADY BOOSTED PRODUCTION TO TWO AND THREE TIMES AVERAGE YIELDS FOR AREA. MOREOVER, YOUNG OTHERWISE UNEMPLOYED ZAMBIANS TAKING PRIDE IN HAVING PRODUCED THESE CROPS ON VIRGIN LAND WHICH THEY CLEARED YEAR BEFORE.

2. PRIMIN EXPRESSED GRATIFICATION FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER'S APRIL 27 LUSAKA SPEECH WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS "REASSURING" TO ZAMBIAN PEOPLE WHO FELT "US WITH THEM" IN FACING ECONOMIC PROBLEMS BROUGHT ON BY CLOSURE OF RHODESIAN BORDER, CONGESTED ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORT ROUTES, AND LOW COPPER PRICES.

3. HAVING ANTICIPATED MUDENDA'S INTEREST IN STATUS OF US ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE FOR ZAMBIA, I LEFT WITH HIM BRIEF AIDE MEMOIRE OUTLINING STATUS OF RECENTLY AUTHORIZED \$27.5 MILLION COMMODITY IMPORT PROGRAM, \$1.6 MILLION PL-480 TITLE I EDIBLE OILS PROPOSAL, \$10 MILLION AID HOUSING GUARANTEE, AND RECENT EXIM AND WORLD BANK LOANS WHICH USG HAD SUPPORTED. MUDENDA INDICATED GRZ COUNTING ON FOREIGN CREDITS SUCH AS \$27.5 MILLION AID COMMODITY IMPORT PROGRAM, ESPECIALLY TO HELP FINANCE FERTILIZER IMPORTS IN TIME FOR DISTRIBUTION AT VILLAGE LEVELS BY END OF SEPTEMBER. I SAID EMBASSY AWAITING AID/W INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW DRAW DOWNS COULD BE EFFECTED ASAP AND WHETHER POSSIBILITY EXISTED FOR RETROACTIVE CONFIDENTIAL

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FINANCING.

4. PRIMIN THEN REVIEWED FORMAL ZAMBIAN REQUEST FOR ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TABLED BY MWANANSHIKU ECONOMIC MISSION WITH ASST SEC SCHAUFELI IN WASHINGTON IN LATE MAY. SAID HE MOST ANXIOUS TO HAVE AMERICAN RESPONSE TO ZAMBIAN REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE IN DEVELOPING LOCAL DAIRY INDUSTRY. I NOTED INTEREST OF FOREMOST-MCKESSON IN SAN FRANCISCO (SUGGESTED BY OPIC TO ME IN WASHINGTON) BUT SAID IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF ZAMBIA COULD MAKE AVAILABLE TO INTERESTED AMERICAN FIRMS FEASIBILITY STUDY NOW BEING DEVELOPED BY DUTCH. MUDENDA SUGGESTED THAT GRZ REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE IN DAIRY DEVELOPMENT BE GIVEN HIGHER PRIORITY THAN AID IN FISHERIES DEVELOPMENT WHICH ALSO INCLUDED

IN GRZ MAY REQUEST AND UNDERSCORED IN RECENT PITCH TO US BY
LANDS AND NATURAL RESOURCES MINISTER MULENGA (LUSAKA A-35).

5. MUDENDA EXPLAINED THAT GRZ REQUEST TO US FOR ROAD MAINTENANCE
EQUIPMENT NEEDS (\$4.5 MILLION) WAS MADE IN CONTEXT OF "GENERAL
SHOPPING LIST" GIVEN A NUMBER OF FOREIGN MISSIONS. HE THOUGHT
BRITISH HAD ALREADY RESPONDED AND IMPLIED THAT USG MIGHT IGNORE
THAT PARTICULAR ITEM.

6. PRIMIN THEN SAID THAT WHILE GRZ GRATEFUL FOR CANADIAN HELP
THERE SOME CONCERN THAT FOCUS OF THIS EXPERIMENTAL WHEAT GROWING
PROJECT LIMITED TO DRY SOUTHERN PROVINCE AREA. EXPERIMENTS
NEEDED TO BE EXTENDED TO WET MARSH LANDS ("DAMBOS") IN LUAPULA
PROVINCE, FOR EXAMPLE. MUDENDA GAVE IMPRESSION OF WANTING TO
ALERT USG TO WHEAT PROBLEM WITH INDICATION WE COULD BE DRAWN
IN LATER, ESPECIALLY IF WE HAVE PROVEN TECHNICAL CAPABILITY IN
WET, SALINE SOILS.

7. PRIMIN SAID GRZ WOULD SOON BE IN TOUCH WITH US ON TECHNICAL
LEVEL REGARDING NEED FOR SERVICES OF USAID EXPERT WHO
COULD MAKE GENERAL SURVEY OF ZAMBIAN AGRICULTURAL NEEDS AND WAYS
IN WHICH US TECHNOLOGY COULD BE HELPFUL IN CERTAIN AREAS. SAID
ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION PERM SEC SIMONDA WOULD ALSO BE
CONTACTING US REGARDING SPECIFIC TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE NEEDS SUCH
AS TRAINING IN AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION WORK, PERHAPS IN FORM OF
SCHOLARSHIPS AT AMERICAN LAND GRANT COLLEGES WITH RECOGNIZED
ACHIEVEMENT IN EXTENSION WORK.

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8. COMMENT: PRIMIN'S INVITATION TO ME WAS SOMEWHAT EXTRAORDINARY
AS IT FIRST SUCH MEETING SINCE MUDENDA BECAME PRIMIN IN MAY,
1975. MOREOVER, IT NOT CUSTOMARY HERE FOR PRIMIN TO SUMMON
FOREIGN DIPLOMATS. FACT THAT MEETING TOOK PLACE WHEN PRESIDENT
KAUNDA FOREIGN MINISTER, AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT MINISTER PAUL
LUSAKA ALL IN MAURITIUS FOR OAU SUMMIT IS ALSO INTERESTING. PRESUM-
ABLY ASSIGNMENT GIVEN MUDENDA BY KAUNDA IN QUIET PERIOD WHILE
LATTER OUT OF THE COUNTRY. MUDENDA WAS SKILLFUL AS FOREIGN
MINISTER FOR SEVERAL YEARS AND KNOWLEDGEABLE AS WELL ON
AGRICULTURE. OFFICE OF PRIMIN ALSO HAS RESPONSIBILITIES FOR
RESTRUCTURING ZAMBIAN ECONOMY AND AGRICULTURE. IT ALSO
APPARENT IT NOW TAKING MORE SERIOUSLY ITS RESPONSIBILITIES FOR
COORDINATING FOREIGN AID INPUTS INTO THIS MAJOR DEVELOPMENT EFFORT.
EMBASSY IS STILL NOT ALL THAT CONVINCED OF EFFECTIVENESS OF
ZAMBIAN COORDINATION EFFORT BUT AT LEAST A START IS BEING
MADE AT LEVEL WHERE IT CONVINCING TO FOREIGN DIPLOMATS.

9. AS I WAS LEAVING PRIMIN'S OFFICE I ENCOUNTERED CANADIAN HICOM,
CONFIRMING WHAT MOFA OFFICIAL HAD IMPLIED, THAT MUDENDA WAS
SUMMONING SEVERAL DIPLOMATS IN SERIES.
IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT THESE ENCOUNTERS BY PRIMIN WITH
REPRESENTATIVES OF FOREIGN AID DONORS MAY ALSO BE RELATED TO

CURRENT TWO-WEEK MISSION TO ZAMBIA OF UN'S SIR ROBERT JACKSON TO ASSESS ZAMBIA'S ECONOMIC COSTS AND SACRIFICES AS A RESULT OF POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. JACKSON HAS BEEN TAKING LINE THAT ZAMBIA SHOULD TAKE CREFUL STOCK OF ALL BILATERAL AID OFFERS AS IT ATTEMPTS TO LEVY NEW REQUESTS ON EXTREMELY LIMITED UN AID FUNDS. SAME POINT MAY ALSO HAVE BEEN MADE TO MUDENDA BY UNSYG WALDHEIM WITH WHOM PRIMIN MET DURING FORMER'S BRIEF STOPOEVER AT LUSAKA AIRPORT ON JULY 1.

10. SEPTTEL FOLLOWS ON SECURITY AND POLITICAL VIEWS EXPRESSED BY PRIMIN IN OUR CONVERSATION.
WILKOWSKI

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